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EAST GRINSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1937

JULY, 1938

The Southern Publishing Co., Ltd., 130 North Street, Brighton—B1924

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE EAST GRINSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Public Health Services of the town for the year 1937, being the 50th Annual Report in the series.

The Medical Officer of Health for the period under review was Dr. R. Sydney Davidson, who resigned on 31st January, 1938.

The Report is in accordance with Article 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and is in conformance with the Ministry of Health Circular No. 1650, dated 4th October, 1937.

Attention is drawn to the measures taken to safeguard the water supply of the town. The Public Health Department works in close co-operation with the main water suppliers and every precaution is taken to avoid contamination.

I am indebted to Mr. W. H. Dunham, Sanitary Inspector, for his valuable assistance in the preparation of this Report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN PETRIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Mrs. S. Crowhurst.
Mr. F. C. Dart.
Mr. T. Fairhurst.
Mr. J. H. H. Griffin (Retired 19/4/37).
Mr. A. H. Johnson.
Mrs. H. M. Munn.
Dr. S. L. Walker (Chairman).
Miss H. M. Beale (Elected 19/4/37).

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Assistant County School Medical Officer and Medical Superintendent
High Grove Isolation Hospital.

R. Sydney Davidson,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

W. H. Dunham,
M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

CLERK TO THE DEPARTMENT.

R. S. Relf.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	6,597 acres
Population.	
Registrar General's Estimate, mid 1937	9,519
Density of Population.	
Persons per acre	1.44
Number of Inhabited Houses.	
Per Rate Book, 31/12/1937	2,623
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers.	
Old East Grinstead Urban District—1931 Census	1,999
Rateable Value, 31/12/1937	£89,334
Sum Represented by 1d. Rate	£350

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

There has been an increase of 119 persons in the population of the town. The industries remain as last year and unemployment has diminished as the table below shows. The figures for the previous year are given in brackets.

Unemployed.

Period.	*Men.*	*Women.*	*Total.*
March Quarter ...	... 110 (74) ...	13 (23) ...	123 (97)
June Quarter ...	... 33 (42) ...	11 (13) ...	44 (55)
September Quarter	... 52 (64) ...	13 (18) ...	65 (82)
December Quarter	... 112 (122) ...	13 (14) ...	128 (136)
Average ...	... 77 (75) ...	12 (17) ...	90 (92)

The highest figures recorded during the year were for the week ended 25th February, when 166 men and 15 women, a total of 181, were without work.

The week ended 21st June gave the lowest unemployment figures, when 44 persons, 33 men and 11 women, were unemployed.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.	*M.*	*F.*	*Total.*
Legitimate	55	58	113
Illegitimate	2	4	6
Totals	57	62	119

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 12.5

Still Births.	*M.*	*F.*	*Total.*
Legitimate	1	0	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Totals	1	0	1

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 0.11

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 8.33

Deaths.

Males	49
Females	77
Total	126

Crude Death Rate 13.24

Adjusted Death Rate 10.59

Deaths from Puerperal Causes ... ... Nil

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births 16.81

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 17.7

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ... Nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 23

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 1

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ... Nil

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years) ... ... Nil

MORTALITY IN AGE GROUPS.

AGE GROUPS.	*Number of Persons Dying.*		
	M.	*F.*	*Total.*
0	1	1	2
1	—	2	2
5	—	—	—
15	1	—	1
25	5	1	6
35	3	1	4
45	2	9	11
55	7	12	19
65	14	23	37
75 and over	16	28	44
TOTALS	49	77	126

The general health of the district is reflected in the low Death Rate, which remains well below that for the country as a whole. The Birth Rate, too, remains low, and this year again the total deaths exceed the total live births.

Of the total deaths, 64 per cent. occurred in persons 65 years of age and over.

There were 6 deaths due to notifiable infectious diseases, all cases of pneumonia.

There were two deaths in children under one year and of these one died at 10 days and the other at 3 days.

DISTRICTS.	Rate Per 1,000 Population		Annual Death-Rate Per 1,000 Population	Rate Per 1,000 Live Births
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Total Deaths Under 1 Year
ENGLAND AND WALES	14.9	0.60	12.4	58
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	14.9	0.67	12.5	62
148 Smaller Towns (Estimated population 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	15.3	0.64	11.9	55
EAST GRINSTEAD	12.5	0.11	10.59	16.81

There were no deaths due to childbirth during the year.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M.	*F.*	*Total*
Measles	—	1	1
Influenza	—	2	2
Tuberculosis : Respiratory	2	1	3
Other Tuberculosis	1	2	3
G.P.I., Tabes, etc.	—	1	1
Cancer	9	14	23
Diabetes	2	—	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage	1	6	7
Heart Disease	14	16	30
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	7	10
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Pneumonia	3	3	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	—	2
Peptic Ulcer...	1	—	1
Appendicitis	—	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases	2	3	5
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	7	8
Congenital Debility : Premature Birth, etc.	1	1	2
Senility	2	2	4
Suicide	1	—	1
Other Violence	1	—	1
Other Defined Causes	2	9	11
Totals	49	77	126

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

These remain as in the previous year. The new Victoria Cottage Hospital, which was opened in January, 1936, continues to serve the Town and surrounding district. The Tuberculosis Clinic is held at The Dispensary, Railway Approach, on the first Monday in each month.

The Annual Report for the High Grove Isolation Hospital, which is controlled by a Joint Committee of the East Grinstead Urban and Uckfield Rural District Councils, will be found on page 21 of this report.

The laboratory examinations carried out during the year are here tabulated :—

PURPOSE.	By whom taken and sent.		TOTAL.
	General Practitioners.	Public Health Department.	
Swabs—Diphtheria	27	16	43
Sputa—Tuberculosis	10	—	10
Blood—Serum Agglutination ...	3	—	3
Urine—Typhoid Fever	3	—	3
Faeces—Typhoid Fever ...	4	—	4
Milk—Bacteriological	—	40	40
Water	—	1	1
Other Specimens	4	—	4
TOTALS	51	57	108

LEGISLATION.

The following Acts of Parliament, Local Government Orders, Memoranda and Circular letters issued by Government Departments in regard to public health were received by the Public Health Department during the year 1937.

Housing Act, 1936.

The Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Amendment Regulations 1937, dated 21st January, 1937, made by the Minister of Health.

Circular 1596 of the Minister of Health, Notification and Treatment of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Circular 1591 of the Minister of Health.

The Housing Act (Form of Orders and Notices) Regulations, 1937, dated 25th January, 1937, made by the Minister of Health.

The Housing Act (Overcrowding and miscellaneous forms) Regulations, 1937, dated 29th January, 1937, made by the Minister of Health.

Circular No. 1597 of the Minister of Health, The Public Health Act, 1936.

Circular 1600 of the Minister of Health, Public Health Act, 1936, Movable Dwellings.

Circular 1621 of the Minister of Health, Prevention of Blindness.

Circular 1643 of the Minister of Health, Local Health Services.

Circular 1643b of the Minister of Health, Local Health Services.

Circular 1651 of the Minister of Health, Meat Inspection.

Memorandum 62a—Foods—of the Minister of Health—Meat Inspection.

Circular 1650 of the Minister of Health, as to the contents and arrangement of the Annual Reports of the Medical Officers of Health for 1937.

Memorandum on the powers of Local Authorities under the Physical Training and Recreation Act, 1937 (National Advisory Council for Physical Training and Recreation).

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

During the year 119 new houses were erected, all of which were afforded main water supply, 103 by the East Grinstead Gas & Water Company, 14 by the Placeland Pure Water Supply, and 2 by the East Surrey Water Company.

The East Grinstead Gas & Water Company draws its water from two wells, one at Hackenden and the other at Forest Row. The Hackenden well is 90 feet deep, reaching the lower Tunbridge Wells sandstone. The water is chemically treated, limed to reduce acidity and lightly chlorinated as a precautionary measure. This treatment is automatically controlled.

The Forest Row well is a deep well, lined with cast iron to exclude surface water and has a boring 160 feet deep, reaching the Ashdown Sand. The water is chemically treated, limed and aerated to reduce the iron content. New precipitation tanks have recently been constructed with a capacity of 400,000 gallons.

Weekly tests, chemical and bacteriological, are made from each well in the Company's own laboratory. Confirmatory tests are made monthly at the Royal Institute of Public Health, each water being tested bi-monthly. Copies of these confirmatory reports are sent to the Public Health Department of the Urban District Council.

Typical specimens of these reports follow :—

The Royal Institute of Public Health,
23, Queen Square,
London, W.C.1.

Examination of a sample of Water—Hackenden Pumping Station.

Report from the Bacteriological Laboratories.

Quantitive Enumeration of Bacteria.

On Agar Plates, kept for two days at 37°C., 4 colonies per one c.c. developed.

On Gelatine Plates, kept for four days at 20-22°C., 7 colonies per one c.c. developed.

Examination for Special Bacteria.

B. Coli : Absent in 100 c.c.

Result of Examination.

From a consideration of the data, no exception can be taken to the use of this water for domestic purposes upon bacteriological grounds.

(Signed) E. Goodwin Rawlinson,
Director.

Report from the Chemical Laboratories.

Physical Characters :

Reaction : Neutral.
Colour in 2ft. stratum : Clear pale blue.
Suspended matters : Nil.
Odour when warmed to 37°C. : Nil.

Chemical Characters :	*Parts per* 100,000	*Grains per gallon.*
Total solids dried at 100°C.	22.0	15.40
Loss on ignition (after re-carbonating) ...	4.5	3.15
Chlorine	2.10	1.47
Chlorine × 1.647 = Sodium Chloride ...	3.45	2.41
Nitrites	Nil.	
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.22	0.15
Saline Ammonia	Nil.	
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.002	0.0014
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37°C. ...	0.014	0.009
Hardness—Total	10.5	7.35
Hardness—Temporary	4.0	2.80
Hardness—Permanent	6.5	4.55
Poisonous Metals—Lead Poisonous Metals—Copper	Nil.	

Remarks :

From a consideration of the above data, no exception can be taken to the use of this Water for domestic purposes, upon chemical grounds.

(Signed) A. W. Stewart,
Director.

The Royal Institute of Public Health,
23, Queen Square,
London, W.C.1.

Examination of a sample of Water—Forest Row Pumping Station.

Report from the Bacteriological Laboratories.

Quantitative Enumeration of Bacteria.

On Agar Plates, kept for two days at 37°C. 6 colonies per one c.c. developed.

On Gelatine Plates, kept for four days at 20-22°C. 150 colonies per one c.c. developed.

Examination for Special Bacteria.

B. Coli : Absent in 100 c.c.

Result of Examination.

From a consideration of the data, no exception can be taken to the use of this water for domestic purposes upon bacteriological grounds.

(Signed) E. Goodwin Rawlinson,
Director.

Report from the Chemical Laboratories.

Physical Characters :

Reaction : Alkaline.
Colour in 2ft. stratum : Clear pale blue.
Suspended matters : Nil.
Odour when warmed to 37°C. : Nil.

Chemical Characters :	*Parts per* 100,000	*Grains per gallon.*
Total solids dried at 100°C.	19.5	13.65
Loss on ignition (after re-carbonating) ...	4.0	2.8
Chlorine	2.30	1.61
Chlorine × 1.647 = Sodium Chloride ...	3.78	2.64
Nitrites	Nil.	
Nitrogen as Nitrates	Trace	
Saline Ammonia	Nil.	
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0016	0.0011
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37°C. ...	0.008	0.0056
Hardness—Total	8.5	5.95
Hardness—Temporary	4.5	3.15
Hardness—Permanent	4.0	2.8
Poisonous Metals—Lead Poisonous Metals—Copper	Nil.	

Remarks :

From a consideration of the above data, no exception can be taken to the use of this water for domestic purposes upon chemical grounds.

(Signed) A. W. Stewart,
Director.

All employees engaged on work at the wells have been medically examined and found to be free from enteric fever. Each individual has had a letter from the Managing Director, pointing out the necessity for personal cleanliness and the reporting of illnesses in his family.

The Placeland Pure Water Supply is derived from a bore over 1,000ft. deep. It is not treated and no periodical analysis of the water is made. The following is the result of the analysis of a recent sample of water taken by the Sanitary Inspector of water from a tap from this supply :—

The Public Analyst's Laboratory,
Mountfield House,
Lewes, Sussex.

Report upon a sample of water—taken from tap supplied by Placeland Pure Water Supply.

Colour : Very slightly yellowish.
Smell : None.
Sediment : Trace of organic matter.

Chemical Analysis :	*Grains per gallon.*	*Parts per Million.*
Total solids (dried at 100°C.)	28.1	
Solids (after ignition)	25.0	
Chlorine	1.4	
Ammonia (free)		.006
Ammonia (albuminoid)		.018
Oxygen taken from permanganate in ¼ hour	Nil.	
Oxygen do. do. 4 hours	.01	
Nitrogen as Nitrates and Nitrites	.01	
Nitrites	Nil.	
Hardness (total)	1.0	
Hardness (after boiling)	1.0	
Phosphates	Nil.	
Metallic Impurity	Trace of iron	
Ph. 8.3		

Result :

Chemically this water is highly satisfactory and in that respect it is perfectly safe for drinking purposes.

(Signed) S. Allinson Woodhead.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Of the 119 new houses erected during the year, 13 were afforded cesspool drainage in the absence of available main sewerage.

The extension of main drainage to other parts of the urban district, in particular the Felbridge end of the town, is still long overdue. It is believed that this northern boundary of the town will be on main drainage when the adjacent rural council's scheme is completed, within the next two years.

Rivers and Streams.

It is anticipated that main drainage will soon be available in the adjoining rural area which will incorporate the drainage from this northern part of the town. Such a scheme holds the only radical cure for the present pollution of the Felbridge stream.

Public Cleansing.

The dry refuse from private houses is collected by the Council and disposed of at the Council's incinerator at East Grinstead. Trade refuse is removed and similarly disposed of at a charge to the trader.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

(W. H. DUNHAM, Sanitary Inspector)

Housing Regulations	155
Re-visits in connection with above	228
House Letting Sub-Committee	27
Nuisances	136
Re-visits in connection with above	145
Rivers and Streams	5
In connection with water supplies	11
Drain tests	11
Infectious Diseases	40
Other disinfections and disinfestations	78
Petroleum Stores	53
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	68
Shops Act	22
Meatshops and Slaughterhouses	349
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	105
Fishshops	16
Other Foods	8
Bakehouses	25
Factories and Workshops	68
Smoke abatement	2
Air Raid Precautions	8
Other visits	6
TOTAL VISITS AND RE-VISITS	1,566

Premises in respect of which Complaints were received.

Number of Complaints	Received	79
	Substantiated	30
	Under Investigation	32
	Abated	23
	Outstanding	7

Summary of Main Defects Abated.

Premises in which Roofs were made good	11
Floors were made good	10
Other causes of dampness	33
Rooms were cleansed	24
Windows were made good or amended	2
Chimneys were made good or amended	12
Disinfestation was carried out	8
Yards made good	5
Drains reconstructed, provided or amended	20
Water closets do.	19
Eaves, Gutters and Downspouts	20
Cesspools reconstructed, amended or cleansed	1
Other Major Defects	8
Sanitary Dustbins provided	93

Shops Act, 1934.

Inspections as enumerated above have been made, but formal action has not been necessary in any instance.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

The Council's Swimming Pool is open during the summer from May to September, and is available for schools during the morning at a special reduced charge per head.

The Pool, which is of good size, and recent construction, is well situated and has the advantages of both sun and shelter. There are ample facilities for sunbathing and floodlight bathing and seating accommodation is provided for spectators.

The Pool is capable of giving a complete change of chlorine treated water every six hours and has a capacity of 150,000 gallons.

The popularity of the Pool continues to increase, as shown by the comparative figures following :—

	1937.	1936.
Total attendance for Season	28,259	24,186
Average attendance per week	1,487	1,273
Maximum attendance in any week	3,223	2,943

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Houses found to be Infested :—

(*a*) Council Houses	2
(*b*) Other Houses	7

Number of Houses Disinfested :—

(*a*) Council Houses	2
(*b*) Other Houses	6

Disinfestation is carried out mainly by fumigation with Sulphur Dioxide by burning ordinary sulphur candles. The use of proprietary compounds has been discontinued.

In each case treated during the year, the first disinfestation has been over the whole house, and in any subsequent treatment it has been found sufficient to operate on individual rooms.

Houses under treatment are sealed externally, the rooms darkened by hanging blankets over the windows and also heated with primus stoves prior to lighting the lamps. Bedding is removed and disinfested by steam.

The homes of persons granted the tenancy of a Council house are inspected prior to their removal, and if traces of infestation are found disinfestation is carried out by the Council free of charge.

All work of disinfestation has been carried out by the Local Authority, but a charge may be made on the tenants or landlords in the case of houses whose rateable value exceeds £20 per annum.

Owners and tenants of infested houses are informed of their responsibilities and re-inspections of cleansed houses made.

Schools.

During the year the various school premises have been inspected in the course of routine medical examinations and were found to be satisfactory after some minor improvements had been carried out.

There was no serious epidemic of infectious disease but it was found necessary to recommend the closure of one school for a period of one week in February on account of an outbreak of influenza.

A Minor Ailments Clinic for school children is held at the Dispensary, Railway Approach, East Grinstead, from 9—10 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

(1)	(*a*) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	155
	(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose, 155/228 ...	383
(2)	(*a*) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	89
	(*b*) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	89
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	6
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	64

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	83

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(*a*)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	1
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	(*a*) By owners	5
	(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

(*b*) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(*a*) By owners ... ... Nil

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ... Nil

(*c*) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... Nil

(*d*) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ... Nil

4. Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding.

(*a*) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 3

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein... 3

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 18

(*b*) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year Nil

(*c*) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 6

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases 45

(*d*) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ... Nil

5. Number of New Houses erected during the year 1937 :—

(*a*) State aided :—

(i) By Local Authority 48

(ii) By private enterprise (Public Utility Societies, etc.) Nil

(*b*) Without State Aid 71

TOTAL 119

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are on the Register of the Council :—

Retail Purveyors	36
Registered Producers	22
Wholesale Traders	17
Registered Premises	34

MILK SAMPLES—RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

No. of Sample.	*No. of Organisms. per c.c.*	*Presence of B. Coli 1/100 c.c.*	*Streptococci Present.*
1	63,660	—	—
2	128,000	—	—
3	73,000	—	—
4	46,000	—	—
5	29,660	—	—
6	36,330	—	—
7	54,330	—	—
8	25,330	—	—
9	110,330	—	—
10	8,900	—	—
11	191,000	Present	—
12	97,330	—	—
	Satisfied Methylene Blue Test.		
13	Yes	—	—
14	Yes	—	—
15	No	Present 1 tube	—
16	Yes	Present 1 tube	—
17	No	Present 3 tubes	—
18	Yes	—	—
19	Yes	—	—
20	Yes	—	—
21	Yes	—	—
22	Yes	—	Present
23	Yes	—	—
24	Yes	—	—
25	Yes	—	—
26	Yes	—	—
27	Yes	—	—
28	Yes	—	—
29	Yes	—	—
30	Yes	—	—
31	Yes	—	—
32	Yes	—	—
33	Yes	—	—
34	Yes	—	—
35	Yes	—	—
36	Yes	—	—
37	Yes	—	—
38	Yes	—	—
39	Yes	—	—
40	Yes	—	—

Meat and Other Foods.

No formal action has been necessary with regard to foodstuffs, but the following has been voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

Beef—	1 liver	Tuberculosis.
	1 liver	Distomatosis.
	1 flank	Tuberculosis.
	1 head and tongue	Tuberculosis.
	8 lbs. kidney	Decomposition.
Pork—	1 head, collar and pluck	Tuberculosis.
	5 heads and tongues	Tuberculosis.
	2 carcases	Tuberculosis.
Fish—	3 stone cod fillets	Decomposition.
Other—	1 lb. tomatoes	Decomposition.
	5 lbs. cherries	Decomposition.
	28 lbs. greengages	Decomposition.
	15 rabbits	Decomposition.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows and Heifers.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	—	—	—	—	—
Number inspected	41	62	44	274	341
All Diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcases condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	2.44	1.61	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	2	Nil	Nil	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.44	3.23	0.00	0.00	2.35

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There were 50 cases of infectious disease notified during the year. The diphtheria notifications amounted to 8, and of this number, 5 were children under 10 years of age.

No applications were made for Diphtheria Immunisation during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Age Groups.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Paratyphoid Fever	Totals.
0	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	4
2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
3	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	4
4	2	—	—	—	5	—	—	7
5	4	—	—	—	2	—	1	7
10	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
15	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
20	—	2	—	2	—	—	1	5
35	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	4
45	1	—	3	3	1	—	—	8
65 and upwards	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	5
Total notifications	8	8	6	12	13	1	2	50
Total admissions to Hospital	4	5	4	1	—	—	1	15
Total deaths	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	6

Cancer.

There were recorded during the year 23 deaths (9 male and 14 female) due to cancer, a rate per 1,000 estimated population of 2.42.

MORTALITY IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Group.	Male.	Female.	Total.
45	1	5	6
55	3	2	5
65	—	3	3
75	5	4	9
85 and upwards	—	—	—
Totals	9	14	23

Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been necessary during the year under section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Age Group.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Resp.		Respiratory.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*
0	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1
5	–	–	1	2	–	–	–	–
15	–	–	–	1	–	–	1	–
25	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	–
35	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–
45	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	–
55	2	–	–	–	1	–	–	1
65 and upwards ...	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
Totals ...	3	4	1	4	2	1	1	2

Air Raid Precautions.

The Air Raid Precautions Scheme for the Urban District has progressed materially during the year. The First Aid Post allocated by the East Sussex County Council will be responsible for the treatment of casualties over an area having approximately twice the population of East Grinstead.

Recruiting for all Services has been slow, but the Medical Services are in advance of all others, and tribute must be paid to the local branch of the British Red Cross Society for the interest they have shown.

The training of Decontamination and Rescue and Repair Squads is progressing and the services of the Public Health Department have been enlisted to assist in this work.

Volunteers are still required for all branches of the Scheme and those willing to offer their services should communicate with the Air Raid Precautions Officer, at the Council Offices.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND UCKFIELD JOINT HOSPITAL COMMITTEE

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT

OF THE

High Grove Isolation Hospital

FOR THE YEAR

1937

AUGUST, 1938.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND UCKFIELD JOINT HOSPITAL COMMITTEE.

1st JANUARY, 1937.

Urban Members.	Rural Members.
Mrs. H. M. Munn.	Mr. F. H. Nias (Chairman).
Mr. A. T. Burt.	Mr. G. A. Warburton.
Mr. F. E. Richards.	Mr. G. Watson.

1st APRIL, 1937.

Urban Members.	Rural Members.
Dr. S. L. Walker (Chairman).	Mr. F. H. Nias.
Mrs. H. M. Munn.	Mr. G. Watson.
Mr. A. T. Burt.	Dr. E. A. Wharton.

Clerk to the Committee.

Mr. E. P. Whitley Hughes.

Medical Superintendent.

R. Sydney Davidson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Superintendent.

H. B. Shaw, M.B., M.R.C.S.

Matron.

Miss J. Thornton Ruddy, S.R.N.

Surveyor.

H. Campbell Golding, M.Inst. M. & C.E., M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND UCKFIELD JOINT HOSPITAL COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the High Grove Isolation Hospital for the year ended 31st December, 1937.

The total number of cases admitted to the Hospital was 154, being 14 more than in the previous year. The highest number under treatment on any day was 24 and the lowest 2. The average daily number in hospital was 14.

No epidemic occurred during the year in the districts of the constituent authorities, nor in the adjacent districts from which cases are admitted. As in 1936, the total admissions can be regarded as a standard for any year in which epidemics do not occur in any of the districts the hospital serves.

Scarlet fever admissions were 97 compared to 80 in 1936 and 97 in 1935 and diphtheria admissions 30 compared to 26 in 1936 and 26 in 1935.

There were 13 cases remaining in hospital on the 31st December, 1936, and 20 cases remaining on the 31st December, 1937.

The following table indicates the number of cases of various diseases treated during the year :—

Table I.

Admissions and Discharges from 1st January to 31st December, 1937.

Disease.	E. Grinstead Urban		Uckfield Rural		Other Districts		Totals	
	Ad.	Dis.	Ad.	Dis.	Ad.	Dis.	Ad.	Dis.
Scarlet Fever	4	4	83	86	10	6	97	96
Diphtheria	8	9	15	10	7	7	30	26
Erysipelas	4	4	3	2	—	—	7	6
Pneumonia	3	1	4	4	—	—	7	5
Tonsilitis	1	1	2	3	—	—	3	4
Paratyphoid	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia and Measles ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia and Whooping Cough	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1
Measles	3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
Meningitis	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Scarlet Fever Contact ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Chicken Pox	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Vincent's Angina	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS...	29	28	108	106	17	13	154	147
Patient Days	707		4,069		497		5,273	

Of the cases other than scarlet fever and diphtheria a number were admitted for the special treatment and nursing required. In other cases conditions were unsuitable for home nursing, and although the disease might not be regarded seriously from an epidemiological point of view, on account of its infectious nature treatment could be obtained only in an isolation hospital. The hospital thus serves a need in the community quite apart from the segregation of infectious diseases liable to become epidemic.

Table II. shows the age and sex distribution of the cases admitted.

Table II.

Age and Sex Distribution of Admissions, 1937.

Disease.	Under 1 yr.		1–3		3–5		5–10		10–15		15–20		20–35		35–45		45–65		65–80		Over 80	
	M	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*
Scarlet Fever	1	–	7	2	10	7	23	22	9	7	4	3	4	6	1	1	1	1	–	–	–	–
Diphtheria ...	–	–	2	1	4	2	5	2	7	–	1	2	1	2	–	1	–	1	–	–	–	–
Erysipelas ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	3	1	–	1	–
Pneumonia ...	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	1	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
Vincent's Angina ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Tonsilitis ...	–	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
Measles ...	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Measles Pneumonia ...	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Chicken Pox ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Meningitis ...	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Paratyphoid	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–

Table III. gives particulars of the deaths which occurred during the year.

Table III.

Deaths occurring during 1937.

District.	Disease.	Days in Hosp.	Age.
East Grinstead Urban ...	Meningitis ...	1	2
Uckfield Rural ...	Pneumonia ...	5	65

I am indebted to the Matron for the following particulars of cases treated :

Diphtheria. Thirty cases were admitted during the year of which three were severe. One was a laryngeal case but antitoxin was given intravenously and he made a good recovery. One five year old boy was admitted with severe Faucial Diphtheria of four days' duration. Although very weak when admitted, he recovered and was discharged after a stay of eighty-two days in the hospital. The third severe case was a boy of thirteen who had late Faucial Diphtheria of a Haemorrhagic type, but he made an excellent recovery and was discharged after fifty-one days.

There were six carrier cases discharged during the year.

Three cases admitted as Diphtheria were subsequently diagnosed as Tonsilitis.

Pneumonia. All the cases admitted recovered with the exception of one woman of sixty-five. She was sent to the hospital as having Enteric Fever, but on admission was found to have Double Pneumonia. She did not respond to treatment and died five days later.

Scarlet Fever. Six cases were of a severe type. Four of these had Otorrhoea, two on admission. One child had a lacerated wound of the left tibia and erysipelas of the leg. She responded to treatment and made a good recovery. One woman, aged 55, had been an invalid for six years and had to be taught to walk. She made a very good recovery and was able to walk unaided before she was discharged.

Erysipelas. Two cases were men of 87 and 73 years respectively. The first had severe facial erysipelas and the second extensive cellulitis of the right leg and foot. This was opened and drained and he made a good recovery and was discharged after 112 days.

Meningitis. One child, aged two, was admitted with this disease, but it was already moribund and died twelve hours later.

CROSS INFECTION.

In spite of the great variety of infectious diseases treated during the year no case of cross infection occurred. This is in some measure due to the constant vigilance on the part of the nursing staff. It is also rendered possible by the peculiar arrangement of the hospital, which is in four blocks, each consisting of two wards with two beds and a verandah accommodating one bed. This total of twenty beds can with safety be increased to thirty-two, as the pace per bed allowed is in excess of the 144 sq. ft. usually prescribed.

STAFF.

There is no serious illness to record as occurring among the staff during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN PETRIE,

Medical Superintendent.